

# Science Background Questionnaire

## Grade 8

This section has 13 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

1. In your science class this year, which of the following topics have been covered? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VC304978

	Yes	No	
a. Life science (for example, biology, the human body, or ecology)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC304982
b. Physical science (for example, energy, physics, or chemistry)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC304983
c. Earth and space science (for example, geology or astronomy)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC304984
d. Engineering and technology (for example, designing solutions to problems)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC304985

2. In your science class this year, have you done hands-on activities or projects with any of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VC304986

	Yes	No	
a. Living things (for example, plants, animals, bacteria)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC304988
b. Electricity (for example, batteries and light)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC304989
c. Chemicals (for example, mixing or dissolving sugar or salt in water)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC304991
d. Rocks or minerals (for example, identifying types)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC305007
e. Magnifying glass or microscope (for looking at small things)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC305008
f. Thermometer or barometer (for making measurements)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC305009
g. Simple machines (for example, pulleys and levers)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	VC305012

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VC305292

3. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Read a science textbook, in class or at home	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC546510
b. Read a book or magazine about science	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC305295
c. Read about science on the computer	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC305307
d. Watch a movie, video, or DVD about science	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC305307

VC305292

4. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Discuss events in the news that are related to what you are learning in science class	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC304771
b. Work with other students on a science project or activity	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC304772
c. Figure out different ways to solve a science problem	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC305328
d. Present what you learned about science to your class	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC305329
e. Take a science test or quiz	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VC305309


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VC305292

5. In your science class this year, how often do you do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Identify questions that can be addressed through science experiments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC304770
b. Design a science experiment	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC305318
c. Talk about measurements you took for your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC305320
d. Talk about the results of your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC305327
e. Watch your teacher do a science experiment or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC305308
f. Make graphs or charts of the results from your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC304773
g. Write a report on your science project or activity	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VC315265


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6. In this school year, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions on tests or assignments for science?

VC315289

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

7. In this school year, how often have you talked with your teacher about how you are doing in science?

VC546453

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

8. In this school year, how often have you used library resources for science?

VC315266

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

9. In this school year, how often have you used computers for science?

VC546463

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day



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10. Please indicate how much you DISAGREE or AGREE with the following statements about science. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

VC305330

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	
a. I do science-related activities that are not for schoolwork.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305348
b. I like science.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305350
c. Science is one of my favorite subjects.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305351
d. I take science only because I have to.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305352
e. I take science only because it will help me in the future.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VC305353

11. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?

VB595182

- ☐ A Easier than other tests  
☐ B About as hard as other tests  
☐ C Harder than other tests  
☐ D Much harder than other tests

13. How important was it to you to do well on this test?

VB595184

- ☐ A Not very important  
☐ B Somewhat important  
☐ C Important  
☐ D Very important

12. How hard did you try on this test compared to how hard you tried on most other tests you have taken this year in school?

VC034559

- ☐ A Not as hard as on other tests  
☐ B About as hard as on other tests  
☐ C Harder than on other tests  
☐ D Much harder than on other tests

